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DEBZU

1. The Vagheb Office in Cairo took the telegram sent from Morocco by Allal-al-Fassi (concerning French action there)* to Azzam Pasha, Secretary General of the Arab League. [REDACTED] that, despite the fact that Azzam Pasha has had proof in the past of the unreliability of the Maghreb Office in general and of reports sent by Allal-al-Fassi in particular, he believed this one and felt that action on the part of the League was called for.** He visited Prime Minister Nahhas Pasha and Foreign Affairs Minister Salah-al-Din Bey and both men expressed themselves in agreement with him. 25X1X
2. Azzam Pasha asked that the matter be discussed in League meetings and [REDACTED] Azzam is reported to have urged Salah-al-Din to ask the French Ambassador to furnish him with an explanation, the results of which, as the Press revealed, were regrettable. But Azzam Pasha did not release to the Press the flood of stories about French bombardments of Rabat and Fez, French atrocities, house arrest of the Sultan, the arrest of Istiqlal leaders, etc. These accounts came from Tangier*** and were handed out by Ahmad Shukiri, Assistant Secretary General of the League, according to informant.
3. Shukiri is said to have remarked that "Tangier was doing well on the fiction side." None the less, without showing most of them to Azzam Pasha, he handed these reports over to the Egyptian Press reporters with a broad hint that they need not worry about restraining their natural bent for embroidery. [REDACTED] it is Shukiri's aim to undermine Azzam Pasha in any way that he can and that Shukiri is out to see that Azzam is not re-elected to the post of Arab League Secretary General and took advantage of the situation to undermine Azzam's position.
4. Most of these behind-the-scenes machinations quickly became obvious to the League delegates. They did what they could in the circumstances, all but Husayn al-Uwayni, delegate from Lebanon, who returned home in disgust, alleging that the strained political situation there required his presence, according to informant.

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[REDACTED] According to a fairly reliable source in the Maghreb Office, Cairo, most of these reports originated in Cairo and were written and distributed by Ibrahim Tobal, a Tunisian political exile, employed in the Maghreb Office, Cairo, and Shadli al-Mekki, an Algerian nationalist.

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